



PAIGNTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1940

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

Medical Officer of Health

Medical Superintendent of Isolation Hospital

A. DICK, M.D., Ch. B., D.P.H.

AND

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FREDK. J. THICK, F.S.I.A.

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Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report for 1940

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PAIGNTON URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS,—

I have the honour to submit my Report for 1940. In accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health, the Report for this year is confined chiefly to statistical records.

A. DICK, Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

1—

Area (acres)	5,177
Population—Census 1939 (September)	22,510
Registrar-General's estimated resident population 1939 ...	23,130
Registrar-General's estimated resident population 1940 ...	26,960
Number of inhabited houses :—1939, 8,250 ; 1940 ...	8,320
Rateable Value, 31st March, 1941	£246,145
Estimated sum represented by Penny Rate—1940/41 ...	£950

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	Total.	M.	F.
Live Births	254	149	105
Legitimate	244	143	101
Illegitimate	10	6	4
Still Births	7	4	3
Legitimate	7	4	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population			8.75
		(E. & W.	14.6)
Deaths	400	184	216
Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population			14.83
		(E. & W.	14.3)
Standardised Death Rate for Paignton...			10.38
Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth :—			
From Sepsis			Nil
From other causes			1
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—			
All Infants per 1,000 live births			31.49
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births			32.78

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	2

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1940

	M.	F.
All causes	184	218
Typhoid and paratyphoid fever	1	0
Measles	1	0
Scarlet fever	0	0
Whooping cough	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0
Influenza	2	1
Encephalitis lethargica	0	0
Cerebro-spinal fever	0	1
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	4	3
Other tuberculosis... ..	0	1
Syphilis	1	0
G.P.I., tabes, etc.	0	0
Cancer	24	34
Diabetes	3	1
Cerebral hæmorrhage	17	24
Heart disease	46	61
Other circulatory diseases	5	6
Bronchitis	11	15
Pneumonia (all forms)	11	14
Other respiratory diseases	6	0
Peptic ulcer	0	0
Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	1
Appendicitis	2	1
Cirrhosis of liver	0	0
Other liver diseases	0	0
Other digestive diseases	3	10
Acute and chronic nephritis	9	15
Puerperal sepsis	0	0
Other puerperal diseases	0	1
Congenital debility, premature birth, etc.	1	1
Senility	0	0
Suicide	4	1
Other violence	5	4
Other defined diseases	22	21
Ill-defined or not known... ..	0	0
Diarrhoea, 2 years and over	0	0
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age : Total ...	3	5
Legitimate	3	5
Illegitimate	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS - NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1940

Age Periods.				New Cases.				Deaths.			
				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	...	...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—5	...	...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6—10	...	...		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11—15	...	...		—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
16—20	...	...		1	2	—	1	—	3	—	—
21—25	...	...		1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
26—35	...	...		1	4	—	1	2	1	—	—
36—45	...	...		—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
46—55	...	...		6	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
56—65	...	...		1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
66 upwards	...	...		—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	...	...		11	12	2	4	3	4	—	—

DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

Disease.				Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Paignton Hospital.	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	25	21	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	15	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	—	—	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	7	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	7	6	1
Dysentery	...	...	...	—	—	—

THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL

Total number of cases, 79 :—Males 35, Females 44.

DISEASE.	PAIGNTON.	BRIXHAM.	DARTMOUTH.	KINGSBRIDGE R.D.C.
Scarlet Fever ...	... 21	3	7	1
Diphtheria ...	... 6	24	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	... 2	—	—	—
Others ...	... 6	4	5	—
TOTALS ...	... 35	31	12	1

DEATHS :—Diphtheria 1 (Paignton).
 Cerebro-Spinal Fever, 1 (Paignton).

I. FREEMAN, Matron.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

THE Maternity and Child Welfare Centre continues to be held at the Congregational Schoolrooms, Dartmouth Road, on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, Thursday afternoons being for Ante-Natal work.

The attendances for the year were as follows:—

RESIDENTS.

Mothers	...	...	...	...	...	3491
Babies and Toddlers	...	...	...	...	...	3989
Ante-Natal Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	422

EVACUEES.

Mothers	...	...	...	...	...	721
Babies and Toddlers	...	...	...	...	...	830
Ante-Natal Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	55

The Voluntary Members of the Welfare Sub-Committee at the Centre again continued their excellent work throughout the year.

VACCINATION OFFICER'S REPORT

Births registered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	298
Vaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	115
Exempted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	128
Insusceptible	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Postponed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Left District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Died unvaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Not yet dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21

F. REVELL, Vaccination Officer.

WATER SUPPLY

Several samples were taken during the year, the chemical and bacteriological results of all proving satisfactory.

Chief Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report for 1940.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PAIGNTON URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—

I submit herewith my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1940.

Owing to the war, this Report is chiefly a statistical record.

DRAINAGE

Old Houses.—The drainage of 49 houses was tested. Thirty-seven were found defective, of which 6 were re-laid and 31 repaired.

New Houses.—The drainage systems and sanitary fittings of 36 houses erected during the year were inspected and tested.

Seventy-nine visits were paid in connection therewith, and 50 tests applied.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION

Infectious Diseases.—Thirty-three notifiable cases were investigated during the year and enquiries made.

Thirty-five cases were removed to the Council's Isolation Hospital from Paignton, and 44 from other Districts.

Disinfections.—One hundred and twenty-one houses were disinfected for the following reasons :—

Notifiable diseases	...	...	...	...	38
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	12
Other infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	10
Verminous conditions	...	...	...	...	14
Other cases	...	...	...	...	47

Details of articles passed through the Steam Disinfector:—

	MATTRESSES.	PILLOWS.	BLANKETS.	OTHER ARTICLES.
From Paignton...	87	340	559	248
From Districts outside Paignton	14	12	45	24

INSPECTION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

Slaughterhouses.—There are two Slaughterhouses in the District—one Private (Registered), situated at Crown and Anchor Arch, and one Public, at Luscombe Road.

From the 14th January, the Ministry of Food took over the killing at both Slaughterhouses, commandeering the Registered one and paying a rental to the owner, and using the Public Slaughterhouse and paying to the Council the tolls which were in operation pre-war, and which were considerably lower than paid by the Ministry of Food in respect of the use of the Slaughterhouses of adjoining Authorities. The Council made quite a number of improvements at the Public Slaughterhouse at the request of the Ministry of Food, the cost of which was borne by the Council.

Killing takes place in both Slaughterhouses for Paignton and certain surrounding districts.

The number of carcasses inspected is as follows:—

Before in use by the Ministry of Food (1st—13th January):—

SLAUGHTER-

HOUSES.	STEERS.	COWS.	HEIFERS.	CALVES.	SHEEP.	PIGS.	Total
Public ...	9	6	11	3	77	65	171
Registered ...	24	2	20	10	150	43	249
	33	8	31	13	227	108	420

After in use by the Ministry of Food (14th January—31st December):—

	BULLS	STEERS	COWS	HEIFERS	CALVES	SHEEP	PIGS	Total
Public ...	7	182	101	188	343	3682	1391	6894
Registd.	1	534	543	560	465	6353	4	8460
Meat Depot	—	—	—	—	—	—	265	265
	8	749	652	779	821	12262	1768	16039

It will be observed that the number of carcasses inspected during the year was 16,039 as compared with 4,905 in 1939—an increase of 11,134.

This work entailed a considerable amount of evening duty (almost daily), including Sundays, up to a late hour, and had to be carried out with a depleted Staff.

UNSOUND FOOD

Statement of meat and other foods condemned and destroyed
as unfit for human consumption :—

	CATTLE (excl'dg. Cows)	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP AND LAMBS	PIGS
Number killed ...	1536	652	821	12262	1768
Number inspected...	1536	652	821	12262	1768
All diseases except Tuberculosis :—					
Whole carcasses con- demned ...	2	3	2	23	7
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	338	5	3	322	14
Percentage of the number inspected, affected with dis- ease other than Tuberculosis ...	22.14	1.23	.61	2.81	1.19
Tuberculosis only :—					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	5	4	0	0	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	113	7	1	0	60
Percentage of number inspected, pffected with Tuberculosis	7.68	1.69	.12	0	3.45

	TUBERCULOSIS.	OTHER DISEASES AND CONDITIONS.	TOTAL.
Beef ...	6114 lbs.	4374 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.	10488 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Pork ...	905 lbs.	912 lbs.	1817 lbs.
Mutton ...	—	1101 lbs.	1101 lbs.
Offals ...	2413 lbs.	5496 lbs.	7909 lbs.
TOTALS ...	9432 lbs.	11883 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.	21315 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.

IMPORTED FOOD

2 Carcases Chilled Lamb—Mould	...	...	...	81 lbs.
1 Trunk Chilled Lamb—Mould	...	...	...	11 lbs.
2 Legs Chilled—Mould	...	...	...	13 lbs.
TOTAL	...	...	...	105 lbs.

OTHER UNSOUND FOOD DESTROYED

28lbs. Brawn.

40lbs. Bacon.

The total amount of food condemned and destroyed as unfit for human consumption was :—

9 tons 11 cwt. 3 qrs. 12½ lbs.

BAKEHOUSES

There are 10 Bakehouses on the Register. All have been periodically inspected and found in a clean condition.

MILK SUPPLY

Number of Cowkeepers or Dairymen on Register at end of year	47
Number Registered as Producer-Retailer	4
Number Registered as Producer-Wholesaler	13
Number Registered as Producer-Retailer Wholesaler	0
Number Registered as Retailers only	30

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

Sixty samples of milk (59 for cleanliness and 1 for Tuberculosis) were taken for Bacteriological Examination, and were examined by the County Bacteriologist. The results for cleanliness are as follows :—

Passed ... 36 Failed ... 23

From Local Producers		From Local Retailers obtaining Milk from Local Producers		From Local Retailers obtaining Milk from Outside Producers		From Retailers outside the District	
Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
20	21	0	0	9	1	7	1

The sample taken for Tuberculosis was negative.

Additional Milk Sampling Scheme.—Five hundred and four samples were taken under this Scheme in conjunction with the Local Dairymen's Association, with the following results :—

Passed ... 210 Failed ... 237

FACTORIES ACT

A Register is kept of all Factories. Visits are paid, any defects found were dealt with.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Collection.—Five thousand six hundred and eighty-four loads (approximating 8527.83 tons) of refuse were collected.

Disposal is by means of controlled tipping in Goodrington Valley. The covering material is obtained from Brown's Field.

During the year 4,662 loads were obtained from Brown's Field, and 103 loads from other outside sources.

Cost in connection with Collection and Disposal :—

							£	s.	d.
Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	3889	4	8
Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	2372	3	8
								<hr/>	
								s.	d.
Collection—cost per ton	...	...	...	...	...	...		9	2
Disposal—cost per ton	...	...	...	...	...	...		6	9
								<hr/>	

HOUSING

Forty-six houses were inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts, and all these were found not to be in a reasonable state of repair.

None of the 46 inspected were recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations.

Demolition Orders were made in respect of two houses—"Tree Tops," Blagdon, and "Cross Cottage," Totnes Road.

In both cases the owners gave an undertaking that such houses should not be used for human habitation. The Council accepted these undertakings, and the Demolition Orders did not become operative.

Overcrowding.—One case of overcrowding was found to exist.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

	INFESTED.	DISINFESTED.
(1) (a) Council houses ...	5	5
(b) Other houses ...	6	6

(2) The methods employed are (a) by spraying with insecticide (Zaldecide) in mild cases, and (b) "Cimex" blocks in severe cases.

In all cases the woodwork (skirtings, picture rails and architraves) have been removed, also floor boards eased in order to allow complete penetration.

Success has been obtained with these methods. Where considered necessary, bedding is also removed for steam disinfection.

(3) The methods previously mentioned are also employed, if necessary, to ensure that the belongings of the tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses.

(4) Disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority.

(5) Frequent visits are paid, and advice given.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT

The administration of this Act has been delegated to the Local Authority by the County Council.

As in previous years, the Council employ a man practically all the year dealing with this pest, and satisfactory results have been obtained.

SHOPS ACT

The Council are now responsible for carrying out all the provision of Section 10 in this Act, powers having been delegated from the County Council.

Five shops have been inspected and Notices served in respect of:—

Washing accommodation	...	...	...	2
Sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	3

All have been complied with.

EVACUATION

IN February, notification was received that 2,500 children would be evacuated to Faighton.

Leaflets were delivered by the Post Office to every householder, asking them to sign a Form signifying their willingness to accept Evacuees. Visits had to be paid to all inhabited houses, numbering approximately 7,000. The Scheme was then explained and enquiries made re the need for additional beds and blankets. All this information had to be tabulated and entailed a considerable amount of clerical work. During February, 90 Roman Catholic children arrived, and in April 38 more.

In May two houses—"Dunedin," Polsham Park, and "Templemore," Midvale Road—were requisitioned as hostels for bed-wetters and children found to be not billetable. These houses were equipped with the necessary furniture and crockery and Staff obtained as far as possible.

During June, 1,795 children and 170 adults (Teachers and Helpers) arrived.

On their arrival at the Station, 'buses met the evacuees, and they were taken to distributing centres, where light refreshments were provided. All the children were medically inspected and passed on to the Billeting Officers, who had previously arranged the billets. Owing to the number of children not passed by the Doctor, another hostel—"Pensilva," Cliff Road—was requisitioned and equipped.

All the arrangements made for the reception and billeting of the children passed off without a hitch.

The Women's Voluntary Services allocated me a number of their Members to act as Billeting Officers, and I would here like to pay tribute to the very excellent work these Officers carried out, and are still carrying out, sometimes under very difficult conditions. At the same time, I would like to gratefully acknowledge the very valuable assistance rendered to me by the W.V.S. generally in the many problems which arose out of Evacuation.

In July, 471 more children and 50 adults arrived. During this month I appointed several Official Helpers.

During August a Conference was held with the Head Teachers, re clothing and footwear of the children.

One hundred and eighty-two children and 16 adults arrived in September; also, families were arriving in the town, some having arranged for private billets. For those without accommodation, "Homelee," Queen's Road, and "Atherfield," Cleveland Road, were requisitioned, furnished, and Staff appointed.

A Welfare Committee was formed, consisting of Representatives of the Leaders of Parties, Helpers and various Women's Organisations in the town.

October witnessed the arrival of 156 children and 16 adults. Owing to the increasing number of mothers and children arriving, and the difficulty of obtaining billets, No. 46 Youngs Park was requisitioned, where the various families looked after themselves.

No. 62, Dartmouth Road was taken over for difficult boys and bed-wetters of certain ages. "Clare Lodge," Central Avenue, was also requisitioned as a hostel, and the children from "Dunedin" were transferred here, "Dunedin" being opened as an Auxiliary Isolation Hospital.

The evacuees from "Pensilva" were transferred to "Atherfield," which was opened as a Skin Hostel, "Pensilva" being used as a Sick Bay.

In November, 57 French refugees arrived and were taken to Cecil Road Rest Centre, where food was provided and temporary accommodation. The following day, eight persons were provided with accommodation at "Homelee" and 10 slept at "Arderne," Queen's Road (previously requisitioned), obtaining their food at the Rest Centre. A French Representative had already leased two houses—"Baildon Royd," Marine Park, and No. 71, Winner Street—but they were unfurnished. These facts were reported to the Senior

Regional Officer of the Ministry of Health, and I was instructed to completely furnish the houses, which was done.

Nineteen more French refugees arrived in December, who should have gone to South Brent. One family wished to stay in Paignton, and a Flat was furnished for them. The remainder were transferred to South Brent.

Correspondence took place between the Ministry of Health and the London County Council in reference to Christmas Entertainments for the children, and it was agreed that Evacuating Authorities should be empowered to contribute reasonable expenditure towards such Parties.

I arranged Entertainments for the children, and nearly three thousand participated.

During this month Sir Hugh Elles, the Regional Commissioner, visited the district and surveyed all our various activities in connection with Evacuation. He expressed himself satisfied with Paignton's efforts.

The question of opening a Nursery Centre is under consideration, owing to the number of children in the district between the ages of two and five.

At the end of the year the number of Official Evacuees in Paignton was as follows:—

Children	...	...	...	...	...	...	2732
Adults	...	...	...	...	...	...	265
French Refugees	...	...	...	...	...	...	76

SALVAGE

THE under-mentioned Table shows the amount of Salvage collected and the monies received for Sales during the year:—

QUANTITY—							AMOUNT RECEIVED.		
			Tons.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Paper	...	...	108	9	0	4	436	18	4
Rags	...	...	9	12	0	2	90	0	1
Mixed Metals	...	...	3	8	1	4	56	5	6
Aluminium	...	...	0	1	1	8	2	9	0
Bottles	...	...					15	5	3
Scrap Iron	...	...	35	10	3	14	58	2	0
Mattresses	...	...					0	5	5
Hair, Flock, etc.	...	...	0	3	2	19	3	1	6
Bones	...	...	1	16	1	15	2	14	4
Totals	...	...	159	1	2	10	£665	1	5

FREDK. J. THICK, F.S.I.A., etc.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.
Meat and Food Inspector.

SUMMARY

House roofs repaired and made watertight	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Damp walls remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
External walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Internal plastering repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ceilings and walls cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Floors repaired and made good	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Scullery floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Doors, window frames and sills renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Sashcords provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Drinking water cisterns cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Drinking water cisterns provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Water supplies taken inside the house	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Kitchen ranges repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Additional ventilation repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Larders provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Yards repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
R.W.P.'s repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
New shuting provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
New waste pipes to sinks, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
New W.C.'s built	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
New W.C. pans fitted	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Flushing cisterns repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
New urinals provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
New lavatory basins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
New baths provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Inspection chambers constructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Interceptors fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
New soil pipes fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
New vent shafts	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
F.A.I.'s provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Septic tanks or cesspools abolished and drainage connected to main sewer	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Drains of new houses or buildings passed	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
New manhole covers provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Drains to old houses re-laid	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Drains to old houses repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Drain tests applied to old houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
Drain tests applied to new houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
New dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Handrails	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

1.—Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health Act or Housing Acts)	46
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...	99
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under the Sub-Head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	0
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...	0
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	46

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or of their Officers	43
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3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a)—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2)—Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices :—	
(a) By Owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	0

b)—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1)—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	1
(2)—Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notice :—	
(a) By Owners	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owner ...	

(c)—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	2
--	---

(2)—Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
---	---

(d)—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)—Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	0
---	---

(2)—Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	0
---	---

4.—Housing Act, 1936—Part 4, Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	0
---	---

(2) Number of families dwelling therein	0
--	---

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	0
---	---

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	0
---	---

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1
---	---

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	4
---	---

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	0
---	---

(e) Any other particulars with respect of overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	None
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